

## **National Infant Immunization Week Sample Proclamation**

Infant immunization protects children from deadly diseases and saves health care costs. Our great (state/city) of \_\_\_\_\_ can be proud to be part of the Nation's success in raising immunization rates to an all-time high. The incidence of vaccine-preventable diseases is at an all-time low compared with epidemics in the past. However, much community work is required to sustain this effort. There are still too many children in this country who are not getting immunized on time.

Research shows that diseases such as measles, whooping cough, and rubella occurring in (insert city/state) could have been prevented with the proper immunization. Children need a series of vaccinations, starting at birth, to be fully protected from these deadly and debilitating diseases.

It is time for everyone in our communities to take responsibility by spreading the word about the importance of proper immunization before age two.

I officially call upon all members of (city/county/state) to participate in reaching our goal of raising our immunization rate from \_\_\_\_\_% to \_\_\_\_\_% this year.

Together we need to educate parents and caregivers about the importance of early immunizations, encourage health care providers to improve access and consistency of immunization services, and seek long-term policy changes that will ensure full immunization status for all children by age two.

The week of April 13-19, 2003 has been declared National Infant Immunization Week to help ensure that children have all their vaccinations by the age of two.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, (Governor/Mayor) of (state/city) \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby proclaim the week of April 13-19, 2003, as INFANT IMMUNIZATION AWARENESS WEEK IN (state/city/county) and encourage businesses, government agencies, national organizations, community-based organizations, and service groups to spread the immunization message throughout their communities. I also encourage public and private health care providers, parents, and children's caregivers in this (city/county/state) to advance the health of children by ensuring early and on-time immunization against preventable childhood diseases.

DATED: Signed by (Governor/Mayor) \_\_\_\_\_